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**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Y. YAMAMOTO, et al.

Serial No: 10/050,864

Filed: January 18, 2002

Title: GEAR CHANGE DEVICE

Group: 3683

Examiner: Bradley T. KING

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JUL 11 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

**RECORD OF TELEPHONE INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 10, 2003

Sir:

During a telephone interview July 8, 2003 between the undersigned attorney for Applicants and Examiner Bradley T. King, the status of claim 2 of this application was discussed. The Office Action of June 19, 2003 is unclear in that it indicates claims 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carpenter, United States Patent No. 5,743,143 in view of Bovina, United States Patent No. 6,382,042 and then applies those references to the subject matter of claim 1. The Office Action then states "Regarding claim 2, see Figure 5a of Carpenter et al." The Office Action then applies Carpenter to claim 8. The status of claim 2 is thus unclear from the Office Action.

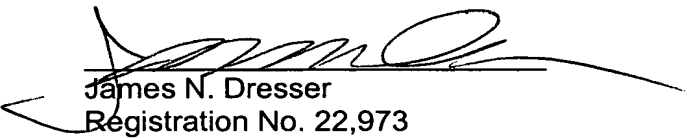
During a telephone interview of July 8, 2003, Examiner King indicated that claim 2 is not rejected on prior art, but is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, as indicated at the top of page 3 of the Office Action. Examiner King further

indicated that if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 is overcome and the subject matter of claim 2 is presented in independent form, that claim would be allowable.

A full response to the Office Action will be submitted in due course.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 358.41077X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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JND/kmh